



Community Meeting Minutes July 20, 2023 VIA Go-To Meeting

Members Present:

DeAnna Valentine (PDSS, Co-Chair)
Darlene Washington (PVH, Co-Chair)
Annie White-Guertin (PARC)
Deitre Smith (PDBHS)
Donna Hufnagle (VSH)
Gina Harris (PDSS)
Holly Toll (Probation & Parole)
Jean Jones (PARC)
Jordan Crouthamel (ForKids)
Joy Shaffer (HER)
Kathie Moore (PDBHS)
Marti Chick-Ebey (HAMVAMC)
Olisha Sawyer (VBCDC)
Pat Chambers (PCOM)
Vantoria Clay (Endeppendence Center)
Sharonita Cousin (VSH)
Ursula Murphy (PSO)
Valzenia Jenkins (PRHA)

Other Attendee's:

Karen Joyner (TPC)
Madison Gray (Fire Rescue - CRT)
Tom Sasso Fire Rescue – CRT)

Meeting Called to Order: 10:05AM.

Review of May 18, 2023, Minutes

Sharonita Cousin (VSH) noted that the agency name for Jean Jones needed to be corrected from STOP to PARC. Ursula Murphy (PSO) motioned to adopt the meeting minutes with the noted corrections and Joy Shaffer (HER) 2nd the motion. There were no abstentions or objections. The meeting minutes for May 18th were adopted with the noted corrections.

Agency Spotlight:

Thomas Sasso (Portsmouth Fire & Rescue, EMS) & Madison Gray (Portsmouth Fire & Rescue, EMS)

Thomas Sasso (Portsmouth Fire & Rescue, CRT) & Madison Gray (Portsmouth Fire & Rescue, CRT) gave an overview of services provided to the Portsmouth community.

EMS traditionally handles emergency calls and assists in resolving critical and urgent issues. They also engage in community outreach and offer direct assistance to individuals in crisis or emergency situations. Assessments are conducted to identify any additional support or resources that may be needed. Furthermore, the Crisis Response Team (CRT) is being developed to assist in outreach to the community for the Portsmouth Fire Department to help resolve lifesaving and immediate problems.

Contact Information:

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CRT: Community/Crisis Co-Response Team

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Madison Gray

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Portsmouth, VA 23707

CRT: Community/Crisis Co-Response Team

CRT-1: (757) 981-4673

CRT-2: (757) 981-4659

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Agency Operational and Service Delivery Updates

DSS

DeAnna Valentine (PDSS) reported the Community Support Day took place on July 15th and there was a great turnout. Additionally, the National Night Out Event will take place August 1st. DeAnna (PDSS) also noted that the Adult Service team as well as the Adult Service Protective Team will be purchasing hygiene kits and disseminate them to those in need. Furthermore, PHAC partners were encouraged to participate in the advisory council that has been established by the Portsmouth Health Department.

PARC

Annie White - Guertin (PARC) reported there are no updates at this time.

PVH

Darlene Sparks - Washington (PVH) reported there are no updates at this time.

PDBHS

Deitre Smith – (PDBHS) reported there are no updates at this time.

VSH

Sharonita Cousin (VSH) reported there are no updates at this time.

Portsmouth Probation & Parole

Holly Toll (Portsmouth Probation & Parole) reported there are no updates at this time.

ForKids

Jordan Crouthamel (ForKids) reported there are no updates at this time.

HER

Joy Shaffer (HER) reported there are no updates at this time.

VBCDC

Olisha Sawyer (VBCDC) reported there are no updates at this time.

PCOM

Pat Chambers (PCOM) reported there are no updates at this time.

PSO

Ursula Murphy (PSO) reported that she was the representative for the Portsmouth Sheriff's Office at the Zero Returns to Homelessness from Incarceration Housing Symposium in D.C. in June 2023. Additionally, PSO will commit to the Zero Returns initiative and aims to build collaborations related to this initiative.

Endeppendence Center

Vantoria Clay (Endeppendence Center) reported there are no updates at this time.

PRHA

Valzenia Jenkins (PRHA) reported there are no updates at this time.

HAMVAMC

Marti Chick – Ebey (HAMVAMC) reported their agency is experiencing staffing changes.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee

DeAnna Valentine (PDSS, Co-Chair), and Darlene Sparks-Washington (PVH, Co-Chair), have expressed their intention to explore alternative approaches for the Community Meeting. They are actively devising strategies to enhance participation and achieve more favorable results. Furthermore, the chairs are interested in rebranding and restructuring the meeting format. They aim to involve individuals involved in addressing homelessness at the community level. DeAnna (PDSS, Co-Chair), emphasizes the importance of making the meetings more impactful and meaningful.

Policy & Planning Committee

Jean Jones (PARC, Policy and Planning Co-Chair) reported that the NoFo Competition information has been announced by HUD. Additionally, the Policy and Planning Committee will be devising a timeline to look at the requirements of the application process. Jean (PARC, Policy and Planning Co-Chair) also reported that the Scorecard review will take place July 26th at 10AM.

Coordinated Entry Committee

Ursula Murphy (PSO, CES Co-Chair) highlighted the committee's commitment to enhancing efficiency and prioritizing the action items specified in the Strategic Plan that are relevant to coordinated entry.

PCAN

Karen Joyner (PCAN Co-Chair) reported that committee members are working on a process to ensure clients contact information is up to date in the PHAC Coordinated Entry project so that housing providers are able to reach clients without difficulty.

Veteran Update

Marti Chick - Ebey (HAMVAMC) reported there may be difficulties in providing adequate coverage for meetings due to recent staffing changes and a shift towards in-person meetings. Furthermore, Marti (HAVAMC) mentioned that there are still available HUD VASH vouchers for Coordinated Entry referrals.

HMIS Committee

Ursula Murphy (PSO, HMIS Co-Chair) reported that HUD is rolling out changes to the Data Elements and HMIS guidelines which will be effective as of October 1, 2023.

Items from the floor:

Valzenia Jenkins provided insight on the PRHA waitlist to the committee and will send additional information via email.

With no other business to discuss Ursula Murphy (PSO) motioned to adjourn the meeting and Sharonita Cousin (VSH) 2nd the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:11 A.M.

Prepared by: Karen Joyner (TPC)